

*The following release is a reminder of the
upcoming I-81PPTA advisory panel
meeting:*

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Office of the Governor

Whittington W. Clement
Secretary of Transportation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tamara Neale
Phone: (804) 786-6458
Cell: (804) 840-2813
E-mail: tamara.neale@VirginiaDOT.org <<mailto:tamara.neale@VirginiaDOT.org>>

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Pager: (804) 997-2852

Evaluation of I-81 Proposals Proceeds
Next meeting to be held in Staunton on Nov. 14

Richmond, Va. - Two detailed proposals to improve I-81 in Virginia will be reviewed and evaluated by an advisory panel created by Secretary of Transportation Whitt Clement. The panel consists of 11 members, including representation from the Commonwealth Transportation Board, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, the academic community and the Virginia Transportation Safety Board.

The advisory panel's second meeting will be held on Friday, November 14, 2003 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the in the VDOT Staunton District auditorium, Rt. 11 Bypass/Commerce Rd., Staunton, VA. The meeting will be open to the public and all written materials provided to the panel also will be available to the public. The advisory panel will not receive public comment at this meeting.

The tentative agenda for the second meeting includes the following:

- Approval of previous meeting minutes and public participation guideline
- Review of additional materials and information requests to proposers
- Evaluation of STAR financial proposal
- Evaluation of Fluor financial proposal

- Distribution of written comments from local governments and other interested parties
- Additional update on environmental review process
- Panel Discussion

“Our goal will be to make recommendations to the Secretary and the Commissioner by the end of the year,” said Deputy Secretary of Transportation Pierce Homer, Chairman of the panel.

The I-81 PPTA panel advisory committee consists of the following members:

Pierce Homer, Deputy Secretary of Transportation
Dee Bowles, Transportation Safety Board
Dr. Jonathan Gifford, George Mason University
Fred Altizer, VDOT District Administrator
Helen Dragas, Commonwealth Transportation Board
Malcolm Kerley, VDOT Chief Engineer
Dr. Phillip Stone, Commonwealth Transportation Board
Barbara Reese, VDOT Chief Financial Officer
Onzlee Ware, Commonwealth Transportation Board
George Conner, DRPT Assistant Director
Jim Bowie, Commonwealth Transportation Board

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